



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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CHAFEE ANNOUNCES GRANT FOR THE RHODE ISLAND SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has notified him that the Rhode Island Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program will receive a \$198,551 grant for fiscal year 2004. The money will be used to provide an opportunity for low-income seniors to improve their nutrition by increasing their consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables.

"This is an excellent program that benefits both Rhode Island's seniors as well as members of the agricultural industry," Senator Chafee said. "I am pleased that this money is being made available in support of this program," he continued.

The program provides low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for fresh produce at farmers' markets, roadside stands and community-sponsored agriculture programs. The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program's goal is to provide low-income seniors fresh and nutritious fruits and vegetables grown locally, in addition to increasing the consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding the development of outlets such as farmers' markets. This is the first year Rhode Island has received funding for this program.

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